

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 3651**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takamitsu KAWAI

Group Art Unit: 3651

Application No.: 10/806,174

Examiner: L. NICHOLSON III

Filed: March 23, 2004

Docket No.: 119212

For: FEEDING DEVICE FOR FEEDING RECORDING MEDIUM

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the January 25, 2007 Office Action and the April 19, 2007 telephone interview, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-7 and 10-21 are pending.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiner Nicholson to Applicant's representative during the April 19, 2007 telephone interview. The telephone interview is summarized below and thus constitutes Applicant's record of the interview.

An Election of Species was required in this application and Applicant elected Figs. 2, 3 and 5-7. Claims 1, 3-7, 10-15, 20 and 21 read on the elected species and claim 1 remains generic to claims 16-19. Applicant requests rejoinder of claims 16-19 when claim 1 is found to be allowable. See MPEP 821.04.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 11, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP-A-9-86749 (JP'749) in view of JP-A-57-072538 (JP'538). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 10 call for an overlap-amount limiter that is held in contact at a surface thereof with a radially outer end portion of a driven roller.

As admitted on page 3 of the Office Action, JP'749 fails to disclose the overlap-amount limiter of claims 1 and 10.

JP'538 also fails to disclose the overlap-amount limiter of claims 1 and 10. As discussed during the telephone interview, JP'538 uses a guide plate 5 (alleged overlap-amount limiter). Figs. 5-9 are not clear as to whether the guide plate 5 contacts at a surface thereof with a radially outer end portion of a roller 1, 2. However, JP'538's specification explicitly states that the guide member 5 is not in contact with any of the rollers 1, 2 (col. 3, final paragraph). As explicitly discussed in JP'538, the guide member 5 is configured to extend up to a nipping region without the guide member 5 being in contact with any of the rollers 1, 2.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.


Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP'749 in view of JP'538 and Rider et al. (Rider), U.S. Patent No. 5,653,439, claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP'749 in view of JP'538 and Taruki, U.S. Patent No. 6,254,078, claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP'749 in view of JP'538 and Bekki, U.S. Patent No. 5,606,357, claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP'749 in view of JP'538 and Uchikata, U.S. Patent No. 5,961,234, and claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP'749 in view of JP'538, Uchikata and Matsumoto, U.S. Patent No. 6,712,463. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Rider, Taruki, Bekki, Uchikata and Matsumoto fail to overcome deficiencies of JP'749 and JP'538 as applied to claims 1 and 10. It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SMS/sxb

Date: April 20, 2007

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